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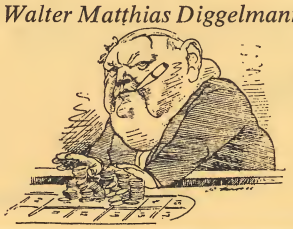

READ WHAT THEY REALLY SAY ABOUT

VIETNAM

Editors behind the Iron Curtain delight in reprinting criticism of U.S. policy in Vietnam from the Western press (and heaven knows there is ample to keep them chortling). But has one ever deigned (or dared) to reprint a defense of that policy? Surprisingly, the answer is Yes—once. When Poland's most influential weekly, *Polityka,* recently reproduced a cover from London's *Economist* labeled "Those Bloody Americans" as evidence of British censure, *The Economist's* editors screamed, "Foul!" Their cover title, they explained, was used ironically, and they in fact approved basically of what the U.S. was doing. Hoist with its own canard, *Polityka* agreed to exchange space with *The Economist* for the presentation of their opposing viewpoints. The resultant "debate" provided the first (and so far only) uncensored explanation of why the U.S. is in Vietnam to appear in the press of the Communist bloc. Proudly (and characteristically) ATLAS is the first to publish the remarkable exchange in this country.

DE GAULLE AND NATO

When it comes to whistling up a consensus at home, Charles de Gaulle need give nothing to Lyndon Johnson. In this issue of ATLAS, influential spokesmen of France's political Left, Center and Right tell why they back their flamboyant President's abrupt and disruptive withdrawal from NATO. Their reasons, to be sure, are strikingly dissimilar and may in the long run prove inimicable. But for now they represent a broad enough base of support to harden de Gaulle's intransigence. The spokesmen are rightist General Pierre Gallois and leftist Deputy Jean de Lipkowski, interviewed by Stuttgart's *Christ und Welt,* and moderate political economist André Philip, writing in the Parisian *Reforme.*

AND APARTHEID

In the African press, where everything, like everybody, is either black or white, the almost incomprehensible racial problems of South Africa (which just barred foreign correspondents from covering Senator Robert Kennedy's visit) have been described with indignation, sentimentality, fear and contumely. This month we are privileged to publish three articles, one by the distinguished white African novelist Nadine Gordimer, two by the subject of her essay, Nat Nakasa, that bring the relations of white and black men of good will as they exist under the harshest of segregation into rare focus. The articles first appeared in the Nakasa Memorial issue of *The Classic,* the magazine he founded and edited in Johannesburg. A few months after he wrote the humorous essay describing his imminent departure from his native land, Nakasa, uprooted and banned forever from his homeland, committed suicide in New York City.

AND MOSCOW'S MAN IN LONDON

Of all the newly-emerging Russian memoirists perhaps the most prolific and forthright is Ivan Maisky, whose eleven years as Soviet Ambassador to the Court of St. James (including four years of World War II), gave him ample material and an urbanity and independence rare among his countrymen. The irreverent anecdotes in this issue, translated from *Novaya i Noveshaya Istoriya* of Moscow drew sharp criticism at the Twenty-third Party Congress this year. There is no evidence that the doughty old diplomat deigned to answer it.

AND MANN ON ANTI-SEMITISM

In 1921 the late Thomas Mann wrote an article on the problem of anti-Semitism at the request of a magazine editor. Because it satisfied neither author nor editor, it was withheld by mutual agreement and never even set in type. Recently false rumors circulating in Germany characterized the article (and, by implication, Mann) as anti-Semitic. To scotch them Mann's widow, Katia, has permitted us to publish it for the first time. We consider it a most notable addition to our notable list of "firsts."

AND OUR ALBANIAN IMAGE

As wholly unreconstructed (and unsophisticated) Stalinists, the Albanians look at the United States through preposterously distorted lenses. What they see, as you will learn in this month's "The World Looks at the U.S.A." is a nation in which the C.I.A. is run by sadistic billionaires for their whimsical pleasure; schools are foreclosed to the children of the "working classes" and only the very rich make college; and a typical American rube moving to New York for a job in a wicked bank loses his car, his wallet, his job and his savings and ends up among the starving unemployed more quickly than you can say *Laiko Vima* of Gjinokastër.

AND HONEST FICTION

In the field of book publishing, our reviews keep you abreast of the latest and best of prose, and poetry as well, from around the world. Many of the novels and plays you read about in ATLAS for the first time, you will later see in English translation in this country (partly because American publishers consider ATLAS a perceptive scout). In this issue ATLAS presents a translation of part of Michel Butor's cross between a novel and a play about Niagara Falls, which is entitled *6,810,000 litres d'eau par seconde,* and which, whether or not it is a play, is certainly novel. Also included are reviews of the latest works of Uwe Johnson, Julio Cortázar and Guiseppe Berto, and a whole section about the artist's lot in the Soviet Union, introducing in English a new poem by Yevgeny Yevtushenko.

THE EDITORS

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Dear Reader:

Over the past few years, you and I have given Pakistan more than $2 billion dollars.

Yet the Pakistanis mock us:

"The Americans have forfeited the confidence of the Asian powers by their trigger-happy policies ... It is idle to contend that if they withdraw peacefully they would expose the whole of Southeast Asia to China's southward expansion. China is wedded to the principle of peaceful coexistence ..."

Source of comment? An editorial in the influential Karachi weekly, The Statesman. Discoverer of the quotation?

ATLAS, the unique journal that seeks out items of significance and interest in the press of other lands, translates them where necessary, and presents them to you once monthly.

Only in ATLAS will you find such a knowing selection of opinion and commentary on pressing world problems and on the doings of the business, cultural, and scientific communities.

This is your invitation to profit from ATLAS ... to learn first hand about people, politics, events, and ideas in lands whose cultures differ greatly from our own. To find out how others view us, and what they see in their own mirrors.

To hear, for example, what the influential Paris daily

Le Monde really thinks of U.S. power:

> "We must face reality. Most Europeans have neither the will nor the means to resist some degree of American hegemony over the West. Even if the rulers of the Old World shared the French chief of state's stubborn will to say "no," their resistance -- like his -- would be inadequate."

Whether the item is biting, shrewd, or even self-serving, what others are saying and thinking simply can't be ignored by thoughtful, perceptive, well-informed people.

Take, for example, Communist China's feistiest and only European ally, Albania. Albanian comrades get their news of the United States from journals like Laiko Vima, which on a relatively moderate recent day reported of our schools:

> "To keep the doors closed for the workers' children, the bourgeois class puts a lot of obstacles before them, such as high taxes, high textbook prices, expensive room and board. For simple folks to go to an American university is almost an unrealizable dream."

You might, perhaps, have seen our journal before -- on the writing tables and coffee tables of subscribers like Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer Allan Nevins, New York's Governor Nelson Rockefeller, singer Harry Belafonte, Defense Secretary Robert McNamara and poet-critic Louise Bogan.

> They all seem to agree with Walter Lippmann, who told us about our magazine in an unsolicited letter: "It is a brilliant piece of editing and enormously interesting."

Open the issue to any of its 64 pages, ATLAS is just about all editorial -- articles, features, poems, reviews, photographs, drawings, cartoons. And please note: Don't get the idea that ATLAS is unduly preoccupied with wars and rumors of wars, or that it is heavy going. Even its most profound articles are chosen with a critical eye to readability, and a generous portion of its regular 64 pages of editorial matter sparkles with malicious cartoons and the sprightly assaults of satirists

like Malcolm Muggeridge and C. Northcote Parkinson. (The late Evelyn Waugh graced our pages, too.)

Who writes ATLAS? Reporters, correspondents and observers for such respected magazines and newspapers as Der Spiegel (Hamburg), Corriere della Sera (Milan), The Observer (London), Le Monde (Paris), Chuo Koron (Tokyo), The Jerusalem Post (Jerusalem), Marcha (Montevideo), Transition (Kampala), Réalitiés Cambodgiennes (Pnom-Penh) ...

and on the other side of the Curtain, Polityka (Warsaw), Elet es Irodalom (Budapest), Palante (Havana), Pravda (Moscow), Renmin Ribao (Peking), Laiko Vima (Gjinokastër). All told ATLAS scans 600 dailies, weeklies, monthlies, quarterlies, published in 28 languages.

If, of course, you can read 28 languages and have time to examine 50 publications a day, you may prefer to subscribe to everything we subscribe to. Then you can do your own reaping and gleaning. But the cost will be a bit high. About $12,000 a year.

Easier, cheaper, and surer is a subscription to ATLAS, with the writers and subjects it offers. You may not be familiar with many of them, but you will want to be, because ATLAS has a notable record of discovery. We were, for instance, the first to translate into English and publish:

- The full, revealing confession of Liu Shao-Chi, President and chief of the Red Chinese state.

- The recently-released memoirs of Russia's World War II military leaders.

- ATLAS also introduced Hochhuth's controversial play, The Deputy, to the English-speaking world, and was the first to translate and publish an important suppressed letter from the late Thomas Mann.

Aside from placing you in the vanguard of the informed with such significant finds, ATLAS will at all times keep you abreast of the vocabulary of the aware; so that you may,

if you choose, spice your conversation with knowing references to ...

Mods and Rockers, apartheid, franglais, UDI, the Establishment, sauna, calligrammes, aggiornamento, the Biennale, revisionism ...

the Maffia, la force de frappe, the Presidium, existentialism, Zengakuren, the nouvelle vague, kibbutz, bel canto, the bikini, the ye-ye, Mitbestimmungsrecht, and Yanqui Go Home ...

The enclosed card entitles you to reserve the right to subscribe to ATLAS for the next eight months at just about half price ... only $2.67.

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May we look for your inquiry?

Cordially,

Malcolm Muir, Jr.
Publisher

MM/fd

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